(c) what steps Government have taken to increase production of Maize in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The year-wise production of maize in Andhra Pradesh during last three years is as under:

SI.No.	Year	Production of Maize (In lakh tonnes)
1.	1998-99	13.830
2.	1999-2000	14.720
3.	2000-2001	14.272

(b) Andhra Pradesh occupied third (3rd) position in maize production after Karnataka and Bihar during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 and fourth (4th) position during 2000-2001 after Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar in the country.

(c) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme entitled "Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP)" is in implementation in all the maize potential districts in the various States in the country, including Andhra Pradesh since 1995-96 with the objective to increase the production and productivity of maize. Under AMDP, assistance is being provided for dissemination of latest technology through Front line and Field Demonstrations on Maize, Demonstrations on Integrated Pest Management (IPM), production of good quality seeds, use of improved farm implements and officers and farmers trainings. Besides, State Government is providing seed subsidy for growing maize under irrigated conditions during Rabi season in place of rice and also promoting maize by shifting from cotton to maize under rainfed conditions.

Drought in M.P.

†306. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh Government has sent a memorandum to the Central Government to tackle the prevailing drought situation in the State;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any amount has been sanctioned so far by Government from the National Calamity Relief Fund to the State; if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c)The Memorandum seeks assistance of Rs. 253.84 crore from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF). It has been considered by the Inter-Ministerial Group in the light.of the report of the Central Team. A final view in the matter has to be taken by the High Level Committee. It may also be added that the State Government has ready availability of funds to incur relief expenditure from its Calamity Relief Fund (CRF).

Decline in productivity of major crops

†307. SHRI RK. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the decline in productivity of major cash crops during the last three years, including cotton, sugarcane, wheat and rice;

(b) if so, the State-wise per hectare production rate of said crops during 1998-99 and 2000-2001;

(c) if so, the concrete steps taken by Government to control such situation; and

(d) if no step has been taken the reasons therefor? -

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) The productivity of major cash crops such as cotton, jute and mesta as also that of wheat and rice

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.